

# The Alexandria Gazette

WEDNESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 25.

Many of the side walks, on King street especially, are covered with frozen snow and ice, which makes walking dangerous. Two persons this morning were quite severely injured by falling on the pavement. Store-keepers and others would find it to their advantage, as well as show a humane disposition, if they would scatter ashes before their doors, or have the ice removed.

At the celebration of the 22d of February, at the Mansion House Hospital, in this place, Dr. Summers, Surgeon U. S. A., announced that he would soon leave this place. Dr. S. was highly complimented by those present for the manner in which he has discharged his duties.

Gen. Daniel Uihman, of N. Y., is to command a negro brigade in Louisiana, and a son of Vice President Hamlin is to be one of the colonels.

Along with the rise in gold, everything else, almost, rises. Cotton goods, dry goods generally, teas, &c. U. S. Government securities have, also, advanced.

The coal trade in Pennsylvania is increasing, and large additional facilities are about to be furnished by the railroads and canals in the State.

A quantity of liquor belonging to Mrs. Ann Englebrecht was seized at her restaurant on Royal street, yesterday afternoon, by the military, and confiscated.

A craftsman, named Davis, belonging to this place, had both legs so severely mashed yesterday, between a tug and a vessel, that it is thought amputation will be necessary.

A banquet to the inmates of the Wolfe street hospital, in this place, was given last night. Speeches were made, and a band entertained the company with music.

A New York pick-pocket was arrested in this place, yesterday, by the Provost Guard.—He had but a short time before picked the pocket of an officer.

A bill has been introduced into the U. S. Congress, authorizing the election of a delegate to Congress from the District of Columbia.

The N. Y. World says:—"It is manifest that on every side the most terrible and decisive battle of the whole war are about to take place."

A MELEE occurred on Fairfax street, yesterday evening, in which one of the combatants had his nose bitten off.

Our obituary columns have recently contained notices of the deaths of several of our old and most respectable citizens.

We regret to hear that cases of small-pox and varioloid continue to be reported in almost all quarters of the town.

The cargo of tea from Japan just sold in N. York, was of excellent quality, and brought from \$1 20 to \$1 25 per lb.

In the notice of Gen. Lee's family the names of the sons should have been William H. Fitzhugh, Custis and Robert.

It is Gen. Pendleton, not Pemberton, who is Gen. Lee's chief of artillery.

The loss to the Government from foreign postage is so great that the Senate passed a bill giving the Postmaster General authority to make rules governing it in future, whereupon the department will demand that it must be paid in coin.

Mr. John Van Buren made another speech in New York, on Monday, in which he denied that "he had ever been in favor of anything less than prosecuting the war with vigor."

Those who have all along supposed that there was a good understanding between Gen. McClellan and Gen. Scott, will find by the letter of the latter, how mistaken they were.

CITY COUNCIL.—There was a meeting of the City Council last night, but no business of consequence was transacted.

Col. Jno. B. Hunter, of Fairfax county, who was, for some time, confined in the Old Capitol prison, in Washington, has been released.

There was a very dense fog this morning—so as to make navigation difficult on the river, for a time.

Gold in New York, yesterday, ran up to 171½.

## GENS. SCOTT AND McCLELLAN.

Mr. Stevens, of Pa., in the House of Representatives, last night, caused to be read, the following letter, in confirmation of his charge against Gen. McClellan of disobeying orders:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY.

Washington, Oct. 4, 1861.

Hon. S. CAMERON, Secretary of War.  
Sir:—You are, I believe, aware that I hailed the arrival here of Major General McClellan as an event of happy consequence to the country and the Army. Indeed, if I did not call for him, I heartily approved of the suggestion, and gave him the most cordial reception and support.

He, however, had hardly entered upon his duties, when, encouraged to communicate directly with the President and certain members of the Cabinet, he in a few days forgot that he had any intermediate commander, and has now long prided himself in treating me with uniform neglect, running into disobedience of orders.

Of the smaller matters, *neglects*, though in themselves grave military offences, I need not speak, in the face of the following:

To suppress an irregularity, more conspicuous in Major General McClellan than in any other officer, I published the following:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16, 1861.

There are irregularities in the correspondence of the Army which need prompt correction. It is highly important that junior officers on duty be not permitted to correspond with the General-in-Chief, or other commander, on current official business, except through intermediate commanders; and the same rule applies to correspondence with the President direct, or with him through the Secretary of War, unless it be by the special invitation or request of the President.

By command of Lieutenant General Scott.

E. D. TOWNSEND,

Assistant Adjutant General.

With this order fresh in his memory, Major General McClellan addresses two important communications to the Secretary of War, on respectively the 19th and 20th of the same month, over my head, and how many since to the Secretary, and even to the President direct, I have not inquired, but many I have no doubt; besides daily oral communications with the same high functionaries, all without my knowledge.

Second. To correct another class of gross neglects, I, on the same day, caused to be ad-

ressed to Major General McClellan the following order:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16, 1861.

To Major General McClellan, United States Army, Commanding the Department of the Potomac.

The Commanding General of the Army of the Potomac will cause the positions, state, and number of the troops under him, to be reported at once to general headquarters, by divisions, brigades, and independent regiments or detachments; which general report will be followed by reports of new troops as they arrive, with the dispositions made of them, together with all the material changes which may take place in the said army. By command of Lieutenant General Scott.

E. D. Townsend, Assistant Adjutant Gen. Eighteen days have now elapsed, and not the slightest respect has been shown to either of those orders by Major General McClellan.—Perhaps, he will say, in respect to the latter, "it has been difficult for him to procure exact returns of divisions, brigades, &c." No doubt. But why not have given me proximate returns such as he so eagerly furnished the President and certain Secretaries?

Has, then, a senior no corrective power over a junior officer in case of such persistent neglect and disobedience! The remedy of arrest and trial before a court-martial would probably soon cure the evil. But it has been feared that a conflict of authority near the head of the army would be highly encouraging to the enemies, and depressing to the friends of the Union. Hence my long forbearance and continuing (though but nominally) on duty. I shall try to hold out till the arrival of Major General Halleck, when, as his presence will give me increased confidence in the safety of the union, and being, as I am, unable to ride in the saddle or to walk, by reason of dropsy in my feet and legs, and paralysis in the small of the back, I shall definitely retire from the Army.

I have the honor to remain, with high respect your most obedient servant,

[True copy.]

WINFIELD SCOTT.

The Calcutta Englishman, a newspaper which has been received, states that a Confederate steamer was recently seen crossing the Bay of Bengal. Her Captain declared to the Captain of the British ship Selim that he would catch and burn every vessel leaving Calcutta under the U. S. flag.

The British steamer Alice, with 800 bales of cotton, arrived at Havana on the 17th, not having seen a gunboat from the time of starting from Mobile till entering the harbor of Havana. No news from Mobile had transpired.

The military court, of which Capt. Parker is Judge Advocate, now in session daily at the Old Capitol prison, Washington, having concluded their preliminary labors, yesterday commenced to take up the cases of prisoners held for attempting to run the blockade a second time.

On Saturday evening, the U. S. gunboat Anacostia, lying near Piney Point, Md., heard heavy firing from the direction of Port Royal, and it was surmised that Capt. McGaw, who went up the Rappahannock last week with the Freeborn, Currituck and Dragon, were engaging some of the Confederate batteries on the river.

The advance of a portion of the command of General Rosecrans from Murfreesboro', as telegraphed to the Richmond papers, seems to indicate the probability of another engagement between the Federal and Confederate forces in that region at an early day.

The most prominent points of interest at this time are Charleston and Vicksburg.